



St. Joseph Area Chamber of Commerce

October 14, 2009

Chairman Julius Genachowski
Commissioner Meredith Attwell Baker
Commissioner Mignon Clyburn
Commissioner Michael J. Copps
Commissioner Robert M. McDowell
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th St. SW
Washington, DC 20554

RE: *Broadband Industry Practices (WC Docket No. 07-52)*

Ladies and Gentlemen:

The St. Joseph Area Chamber of Commerce was originally organized over a century ago and currently represents nearly 1,000 member businesses in Northwest Missouri and Northeast Kansas. Our mission is "to create an environment that allows business to succeed and the community to prosper." To that end, we are a vocal advocate on issues that could have a significant impact on the business sector of our region.

We believe the availability of reliable telecommunications, data, and video infrastructure is essential to foster quality economic growth. As a certified economic development professional for 15 years, I can attest to the fact that the capacity of local telecommunications is a top priority in the corporate site selection process. Further, the minimum required standards of related technology continually increase.

I write this letter to express our concern that the "net neutrality" regulations currently under your consideration would hinder the advancement of new technologies and discourage capital investment in the telecommunications industry. We hereby respectfully request that the FCC approach this issue with a high degree of caution and extend more consideration to potential unintended consequences of stifling economic growth, innovation of new technologies, and capital investment.

Thank you for allowing me an opportunity to provide these comments.

Sincerely,

Ted Allison, CED
President and CEO